

Space Observer

Friday, March 22, 2002

Peterson Air Force Base, Colo.

Vol. 46 No.10

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Pharmacy refill line

The 810th Medical Operations Squadron has a new refill telephone number. The number is 333-DRUG



C-130 ready to roll with commemorative nose art

By Tech Sgt. David D. Morton
302nd Airlift Wing Public Affairs

"Let's Roll!," an Air Force nose art application designed to honor America's spirit, dedication and resolve following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, was unveiled during a ceremony in a 302nd Airlift Squadron hangar March 18.

Like many occasions that have memorialized the events of Sept. 11, the unveiling was solemn, yet inspiring.

The "Let's Roll!" theme was derived from United Airline Flight 93 passenger Todd Beamer's phrase when he helped foil hijackers on Sept. 11.

"Let's Roll!" has served as a rallying cry for this nation as we go forward in our war on terrorism, said Gen. John Jumper, Air Force Chief of Staff.

Each wing commander throughout the Air Force was approved to assign one military aircraft with the "Let's Roll!" design.

The 302nd Airlift Wing designated aircraft 320 for the application, which will remain on the aircraft until the first anniversary of the attacks.

"The words 'Let's Roll!,' spoken by Todd Beamer, and the actions by him and others on that fateful United Airlines flight, reflect the spirit of

America," said Col. Richard R. Moss, wing commander and narrator for the ceremony. "We will not allow others to attack us and take lives of innocent people. We will prevail against terrorism no matter what the costs."

"This is why we serve," added Senior Master Sgt. Ron Vierling, 302nd AW maintenance flight chief. "It gives conviction to continue doing what we do in the Air Force Reserve."

Several local dignitaries and high-ranking military personnel were invited to attend the unveiling. Local

media representatives were also on hand to cover the event.

"The dedication of this aircraft today is especially meaningful to the 302nd AW," Moss said. "More than 600 personnel, men and women, have been activated and deployed throughout the world to support our country's war against terrorism. They left their families, their civilian jobs, and have put their lives on hold for a year because, as citizen airmen, they are willing to do whatever is necessary to protect this country and its people."



Photo by Dennis Howk

Col. Richard Moss, wing commander and Maj. Matt Miller, 731st Aerial Squadron C-130 pilot, reveal "Let's Roll," an Air Force nose art application designed to honor America's spirit, dedication and resolve following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, during an unveiling ceremony in a wing hangar March 18.



Photo by Capt. Jim Fuchs

Reasons behind the mission

Maj. Dan Nash, a pilot with the 102nd Fighter Wing at Otis Air National Guard Base, Mass., pays his respects at the World Trade Center family viewing platform March 13 in New York. Nash, along with more than 40 guardsmen from Massachusetts and Rhode Island, were guests of New York City's office of emergency management as the nation commemorated the six-month anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. Since the attacks, the 102nd FW has been flying combat air patrol missions over locations in the northeastern United States.

Action Line

Submitting Action Lines

The Action Line is your direct line to the commander. If you have any questions, comments or concerns please call or fax the Action Line.

As a reminder, the Action Line is not a replacement for your chain of command. You should always try to resolve any problems at the lowest level possible.

Thank you for your time and effort in helping us improve the Peterson Complex.

To submit a question or comment call 556-7777 or fax your question to 556-7848.



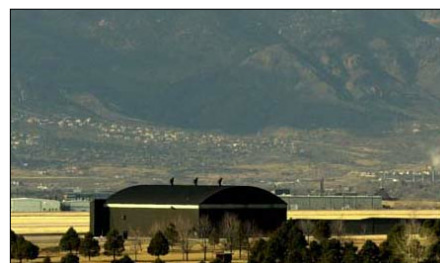
Brig. Gen. Bob Kehler
21st SW commander

21st Space Wing



GSU

At a Glance



Unit: 76th Space Control Squadron

Location: Peterson Air Force Base, Colo.

Mission: The 76th Space Control Squadron is Air Force Space Command's first offensive and defensive counter-space technology squadron.

History: The history of the 76th dates to the earliest days of World War II. During the summer of 1941, Army Capt. Claire L. Chennault formed a small group of American pilots into the 3rd Pursuit Squadron, Aviation Volunteer Group.

On Dec. 18 1941, the 3rd was redesignated as the 76th Pursuit Squadron and subsequently the 76th Fighter Squadron on May 15, 1942.

Following World War II the 76th was deactivated and reactivated a number of times. Over this period, the squadron conducted P-47, RF-80, F-89, F-102, A-7 and A-10 flying operations.

DESERT STORM lessons on space power convinced Air Force leaders to reactivate the unit as the 76th Space Operations Squadron in December 1995. The 76th deployed Air Force Space Support Teams to bring space expertise to expeditionary air forces and air operations centers around the world. The squadron was deactivated on Jan. 21, 2001 and its campaign streamers transferred to the 76th Space Control Squadron during its activation on Jan. 22, 2001.

News Briefs

ROAD CLOSURES - Peterson Boulevard will be reduced to one-lane traffic in both directions at the intersection of Stewart Avenue March 23-24 for the installation of utility drainage pipes.

For more information contact Ken Chalifour at 556-4133.

- The north section of Kelly Street will be closed beginning at 6 p.m. today and will re-open at 6 a.m. Monday.

For more information, call John Moreau at 556-4184.

FITNESS CENTER CONSTRUCTION -

The fitness center is undergoing retiling of the main entrance and hallway. Sunday, alternate entrances must be used while the tile is drying.

For more information call the fitness center at 556-4462.

INSTRUCTOR OPENING - The Peterson Air Force Base Airman Leadership School is accepting special duty applications through July 31.

The school is looking for a staff sergeant with at least an associate's degree or the ability to complete one within twelve months.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Joey Quiroz at 556-7737 or Staff Sgt. Kevin Allen at 556-4940.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - The 18th National Space Symposium is slated for April 8-11 at the Broadmoor hotel.

Volunteers are needed for a variety of positions.

For more information go to www.spacesymposium.org or call 554-5736.

ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMITTEE - The Peterson Asian Pacific American

Heritage Committee is looking for members.

Meetings are 11 a.m., Wednesdays, at Building 880.

For more information or to join the committee, call Bonnie Pavlik at 556-6530.

HISPANIC HERITAGE COMMITTEE - The Peterson Hispanic Heritage Committee will have its monthly meeting 11 a.m.-noon, April 3, at the Aragon Dining Hall.

For details, call Master Sgt. Leo Perez at 554-4080.



Space Observer

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inquiries, call the Gazette, (719) 476-1640 for display ads, and 476-1685 for classified ads.

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21st Space Wing Commander

Brig. Gen. Bob Kehler
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Assistant Editor
Staff Sgt. Melanie Epperson

News

27 Pete Complex E-7s tagged for E-8 stripe

The following Peterson Complex master sergeants have been selected for promotion to senior master sergeant:

- Leyda Pendergrass, 544th Intelligence Operations Group
- Wayne A. Hughbanks, Air Force Operations Test and Evaluations Squadron, Detachment 4
- Gary D. Harrah, 367th Recruiting Squadron
- Robert E. Kribel, Jr., 544th Intelligence Operations Group
- Stephen R. Lucas, 13th Air Support Operations Squadron
- Christopher Felth, Air Force Space Command
- Darryl T. Powell, Air Force Space Command
- Wayne A. Ince, Air Force Space Command
- Jimmy A. Richey, 21st Civil Engineer Squadron

- Marcus E. Schaeffer, 21st Communications Squadron
- Gregory M. Koziara, 12th Space Warning Squadron
- Raymond S. Magby, 12th Space Warning Squadron
- Michael E. Kiser, Air Force Space Command
- John J. Correia, Jr., Air Force Space Command
- Mark J. Seery, Air Force Space Command
- Daniel Mark, Air Force Space Command
- Rick D. Green, 21st Operations Group
- Stephen McConnell, 21st Operations Support Squadron
- Allen L. Kirby, 21st Logistics Support Squadron
- David P. Joyal, 21st Comptroller Squadron



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mike Phillips

Brig. Gen Bob Kehler, 21st Space Wing commander, left, and Chief Master Sgt. Fred Schoettler, command chief master sergeant, right, pose with the 21st SW selectees.

- Jeffrey S. Simon, Air Force Space Command
- Bradley A. Baker, Space Systems Missile Center, Det. 11
- David L. Pitts, 721st Security Forces Squadron

- Rita A. Allen, NORAD
- Joseph C. Beal, NORAD
- Wayne O. Wohlers, U.S. Space Command
- Cathy Johnson, 810th Medical Operations Squadron

Women invaluable to WWII effort

By Capt. Elizabeth Ortiz
U.S. Air Forces in Europe Public Affairs

Every year, National Women's History Month provides an opportunity to recognize women's contributions to U.S. history.

"This celebration serves to reiterate our nation's respect, admiration, and gratitude for the women who have provided service to our country," said Gen. Henry H. Shelton, former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

From the American Revolution to Operation Desert Storm, women have been a part of military history.

"Their hard work continues to make a difference for America and the world," Shelton said. "We respect their sacrifices and celebrate their contributions to making our country strong and free."

Service women were part of U.S. Air Forces in Europe from its beginning as Eighth Air Force. World War II brought them to the European Theater of Operations in 1943.

Women in the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps replaced enlisted male vehicle drivers, radio operators, draftsmen, translators, camera and photo technicians, aircraft warning plotters, filterers, tellers and turret supervisors, weather observers, and radio mechanics.

According to a 1945 Pentagon booklet titled "WAAC-WAC 1943-1944, European Theater of Operations," Eighth Air Force's need for trained women became greater in the spring of 1943 as the bombing tempo picked up.

When the first large contingent of WAACs arrived in the European Theater for duty, they comprised 19 officers and 557 enlisted women, according to the booklet. While they arrived as an auxiliary to the Army, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed legislation on July 1, 1943 making all service women members of the Army. As a result, the WAAC became the WAC, Women's Army Corps, and women were given the oath of enlistment into the U.S. Army.

By September 1943, requests for WACs were coming into the ETO from all quarters with Eighth Air Force the most "insistent in its demands," according to the booklet.

By October, the WACs had "ceased to be a novelty and had become a part of the general scene" in the ETO. In December, the War Department allotted the theater 250 WAC officers and 5,500 enlisted women.

WAC strength grew throughout 1944. When the time came to move personnel to the European continent, it was decided 50 percent of the personnel would be WACs. On July 14, 1944, exactly one year after the first contingent of WACs landed in England, the first WACs, 49 of them, landed in Normandy.

Clad in field leggings, trousers, combat jackets and helmets, the WACs camped out in an apple orchard and worked in tents or pre-fabricated office huts.

"They did their job, were quickly adjusted to field life and were a definite morale factor," the booklet said. "Living and working under equal conditions, the enlisted men felt that if the WACs could take it, they could take it."

A few days after the fall of Paris to Allied Forces Aug. 31, 1944, the WACs were there.

By October, the War Department reported 3,000 WACs were stationed in Paris, according to the booklet.

With hundreds of requests for WACs, the booklet noted they were serving in "every possible job category in every service branch of the Army." That they had become an integral part of the U.S. Army in Europe can be judged from the fact the theater requested an increase in WACs.

On Oct. 20, 1944, Lt. Col. Anna W. Wilson, the WAC staff director in the ETO, became the first WAC to receive the prestigious Legion of Merit.

Women contributed to the war effort in the air as well. In August 1943, the Women Airforce Service Pilots were created to relieve male pilots from non-combat duties to concentrate on combat service and too see if women could serve as military pilots.

Originally, WASPs ferried only light Army Air Force aircraft from factories to training bases, but eventually they flew fighters as well as four-engine bombers and transport aircraft — including the B-26 Marauder, B-29 Super Fortress and the B-17 Flying Fortress.

"WASPs flew virtually every type of aircraft," according to the women pilots history link at the U.S. Air Force Museum's Web site.

WASPs flew about 60 million miles — or 2,500 times around the world at the equator. Thirty-eight of them were killed in the line of duty.

In addition, WASPs also carried out non-combat missions, such as towing aerial gunnery targets, flying as practice targets for searchlight crews and serving as instrument instructors. Overall, these women of "vision and courage" proved many preconceptions on female physiology and



Courtesy photo

After becoming a Women Airforce Service Pilot, Deanie Parrish towed targets at Greenville Army Air Base, Miss., as a B-26 Marauder pilot.

capability wrong.

"You ... have shown that you can fly wingtip to wingtip with your brothers," said Gen. H.H. Arnold, commanding general of the Army Air Forces, at the last WASP graduation on Dec. 7, 1944. "If ever there was doubt in anyone's mind that women could become skilled pilots, the WASPs dispelled that doubt."

Due to political pressures and the increased availability of male pilots, however, the WASPs were disbanded on Dec. 20, 1944, with no veterans' benefits or reserve status. The next of kin of the women who died in service were left with no survivor's benefits and even without the right to display the gold star — the symbol of ultimate sacrifice during WWII.

In November 1977, President Jimmy Carter signed a bill granting WWII veterans' status to former WASPs.

Tax tip of the week:

Dealing with Traditional, Roth IRAs

An Individual Retirement Account is a personal savings plan that gives you tax advantages for setting aside money now for your future retirement. Here are some highlights that you may find helpful. These lists are not all inclusive.

Some of the characteristics of a Traditional IRA:

- Contributions may be deductible from your taxable income depending on your adjusted gross income limits.

- Contribution limits for 2001 are generally \$2,000 and can be made up to 15 April 15, 2001. The limit increases to \$3,000 for 2002 or \$3,500 if age 50 or older.

- Early distributions prior to age 59 and a half may be taxable and will incur a 10 percent additional tax penalty on the taxable amount. Certain exemptions will apply.

- Voluntary distributions may begin at age 59 and a half and mandatory distributions must begin at age 70 and a half.

- Funds rolled over to another Traditional IRA are not taxed as long as the funds

are deposited into the new Traditional IRA within 60 days of receipt.

■ Funds rolled over to a ROTH IRA may be taxed.

Some of the characteristics of a Roth IRA:

- Contributions are made with after-tax dollars, meaning they cannot be deducted from your taxable income.

- Contribution limits for 2001 are generally \$2,000 and can be made up to April 15, 2001. The limit also increases to \$3,000 for 2002 or \$3,500 if age 50 or older.

- Early distributions prior to age 59 and a half may be taxable and will incur a 10 percent additional tax penalty on the taxable amount.

- Funds distributed after age 59 and a half are tax free to include all reinvested dividends, interest and capital gains.

- Funds can only be rolled over to another ROTH IRA, but are not taxed as long as the funds are deposited into the new ROTH IRA within 60 days of receipt.

In an ideal situation,

every dollar deposited into a Traditional IRA would be deducted from taxable income for every tax year. In this case, all funds in the IRA, including reinvested interest, dividends and capital gains, would be taxed when they are distributed after age 59 and a half or if rolled over to a ROTH IRA.

A more realistic situation might be where funds deposited into a Traditional IRA are able to be deducted from taxable income in some years and not eligible to be deducted from taxable income other years.

In this case, not all funds may be taxed when they are distributed. The individual taxpayer needs to keep accurate records identifying those funds that were already taxed during the year they were deposited. IRS Form 8606 can be used for this purpose.

You need to complete this form every year you maintain an active IRA account, whether or not you make deposits to the account.

For details, call 556-5213 or 556-5214.

Hispanic heritage committee defined

By Staff Sgt.

Serena Adams

21st Operations Support Squadron

The Peterson Hispanic Heritage Committee has meetings on the first Wednesday of every month.

One of the major topics discussed during the last meeting was how to let people around the Peterson Complex know there is a Hispanic Heritage Committee, and exactly what it is they do.

The basic purpose of the committee is to promote a better awareness of the hispanic culture as well as upcoming Hispanic heritage events.

"We have volunteered our time to serve on the Peterson Hispanic Heritage Committee board this year to help this organization meet its purpose of promoting awareness of the Hispanic culture and coordinate activities and events to celebrate Hispanic American Heritage," said Master Sgt. Leopoldo Perez

Jr., president of the committee. "As we all know, this takes a lot of time, people and commitment. We urge the community to help in accomplishing these goals."

Hispanic is a term that Americans use to describe everyone who is of Spanish descent, or those who draw roots from Spain, Puerto Rico, Central America, Mexico, and parts of California and Texas, he added.

"Because the term hispanic covers such a broad range of people, a Presidential Referendum was established Oct. 15 for Hispanic heritage observance," said Airman 1st Class Jessica Sanchez, secretary of the committee.

"Although the support from the community is at its highest during the designated month for Hispanic heritage, we want people to remember it should be a year round observance," said Perez.

If you are interested in the committee, call Perez at 554-4080.

News

Our diplomats of the community

*11th SWS
volunteers help
local boy
regain mobility*

By Staff Sgt. Robert Elbert

11th Space Warning Squadron

Members of the 11th Space Warning Squadron at Schriever Air Force Base recently helped 10 year old Jeremy Coursey regain some of his freedom.

Almost overnight, Jeremy was confined to a wheelchair after contracting a rare disabling disease.

Jeremy's home did not have wheelchair access, making it nearly impossible for him to go outside without having to be lifted up several stairs.

However, in just one afternoon, with 45 work hours donated, 12 volunteers from the 11th SWS built a wheelchair ramp giving Jeremy back much of the freedom that he lost just a few months ago.

"Helping out others is inspirational to me, considering we all, at one point in time, will need help," said Airman 1st Class Deondray

Wesley.

This is the fifth volunteer project in a year that members from the 11th have participated in. Among the 11th SWS members that participated, they have donated more than 500 hours.

Most volunteer opportunities for the 11th are coordinated with the organization Rebuilding Together, by long-time volunteer Senior Airman Steve Teeple, 11th SWS.

"There is nothing better than having a direct impact on our community like this. You come away at the end of the day with a good feeling inside knowing you really helped somebody," said Teeple.

Rebuilding Together is a volunteer organization that focuses on the rebuilding and repair of homes belonging to the underprivileged, elderly, and disabled in our community.

In many cases, the work done by Rebuilding Together volunteers enables homeowners to stay in their own homes much longer than if repairs were not made, greatly improving the quality of life for those less fortunate.

For more information or if you're interested in volunteering for the Rebuilding Together program, call the director, Jim Timmerman, at 634-4115.

"Helping out others is inspirational to me, considering we all, at one point in time, will need help,"

Airman 1st Class Deondray Wesley
11th Space Warning Squadron



Photo by Senior Airman Steve Teeple

Volunteers from the 11th Space Warning Squadron recently built a wheelchair ramp for a local boy who was diagnosed with a rare disease that crippled him.

Around the Air Force

Cheney visits troops in Middle East

OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM —

In his first stop to an Operation Enduring Freedom base in the Middle East, Vice President Dick Cheney visited the 366th Air Expeditionary Wing March 17.

As part of his 10-day, 12-nation tour of the region, the vice president addressed servicemembers on the vital role they are playing in the war on terrorism and the great humanitarian assistance they are providing to the Afghan people.

"These are testing times for the U.S. and, in such a time, we are especially grateful for our military," Cheney said. "You are here fighting for the defense of our country, and the forces of freedom will defeat the forces of terror."

"During Operation Enduring Freedom, and most recently Operation Anaconda, U.S. forces have encountered dangers and will encounter many more, but in the last five months, the al-Qaida and Taliban have gotten a good dose of American airpower. Missions from this location have made all the difference in Enduring Freedom and Anaconda."

Cheney's entourage, which included the White House's top counterterrorism official, and his wife, Lynne, received a rousing applause from the large contingent of troops upon entering the American compound known as Camp Andy, a temporary living and working area of nearly 200 heavy-duty, tan-colored tents first set up in September. The camp is named after Air Force Master Sgt. Evander Earl "Andy" Andrews, the first U.S. casualty of Enduring

Freedom who died here Oct. 10 as a result of a heavy-equipment accident.

The vice president then thanked the airmen for their efforts in the war against terrorism and continuously emphasizing the long-term commitment of the United States and other allied nations.

"Afghanistan is only the beginning of a long effort," Cheney said. "The war will end when no terrorist group is allowed to threaten any nation. We will assist governments in fighting terrorist cells wherever they form. We will respond decisively and we will prevail."

"You're here because you believe in America. I'm here to tell you, America believes in you."

During his visit, Cheney spoke one-on-one with several wing members, including Lt. Col. "D Dawg," commander of the 157th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron from the South Carolina Air National Guard. "D Dawg," a decorated combat pilot as well as an American Airlines captain in his civilian life, gave the vice president a quick tour of his unit's F-16 Fighting Falcon aircraft, which are flying daily missions over Afghanistan.

The 157th EFS is a prime example of the Air Force's total force commitment of active-duty, Reserve and Air Guard forces involved in the Enduring Freedom campaign.

Notable is the fact that the guard unit, which has eight fighter pilots here who fly for major airlines, also plays a key role in U.S. homeland



Photo by Senior Airman Danielle Upton
Vice President Dick Cheney greets people from the 366th Air Expeditionary Wing during a visit to an Operation Enduring Freedom base in the Middle East on March 17.

defense. Pilots from this unit were flying combat air patrols over Atlanta just four hours after the terrorist attacks Sept. 11.

The 366th AEW serves as one of the largest Air Force wings in the region with a number of support and operational functions. Aircraft supported by the wing include KC-10 Extenders, KC-135 Stratotankers, E-8C Joint Surveillance Target Attack Radar System aircraft and F-16s.

(Courtesy of Air Force Print News)

Chief of Staff Organizational Climate survey team analyzing responses

SAN ANTONIO —

With the collection phase over, the Air Force Chief of Staff Organizational Climate Survey team will now turn information into action by studying millions of pieces of data over the next few months.

More than 58 percent of the Air Force's active-duty airmen and civilians responded to the survey, which ran Jan. 22 to March 8. Similar organizational climate surveys were conducted in 1997 and 1999.

Gen. John P. Jumper, Air Force chief of staff, said the

survey is a "critical tool" that helps improve mission effectiveness because it gives "leaders at all levels in your chain of command valuable information."

The results, which give an overall picture of the Air Force, will go to Jumper in May, survey officials said. Meanwhile, the team at the Air Force Manpower and Innovation Agency will produce thousands of unit-level reports.

The results of analyses will be made available in mid-

May through Web-based reports that protect the anonymity of the participants.

The AFMIA is the administrator of this project and will pull together the data and pass it to multiple analysis teams who will crunch the numbers and look for trends. Experts at the Air Force Academy will be responsible for the detailed analysis and modeling for the Air Force chief of staff.

Leaders of units with at least 10 respondents will get a basic organization climate

report, while those with 20 or more respondents will see a more detailed report that also includes participants' comments.

This year's survey covered the following areas: resources, jobs, supervision, leadership, training and development, teamwork, recognition, participation/involvement, unit flexibility, unit outcomes and job enhancement.

A new addition to this year's survey was the competitive sourcing section.

"The survey is a great



tool for senior leaders at all levels to make positive changes within their organizations," said Lori Marcum, survey team leader.

(Courtesy of Air Force Print News)

Today

■ Craft fair, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., in the officers' club ballroom.

Monday

■ Mothers on the Move, 9:30-10:30 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, at the Family Advocacy Center.

Tuesday

■ Sponsorship training, 7:30-8:30 a.m., at the Family Support Center.
■ Resume review class, 9-11 a.m., at the Family Support Center.
■ Easter season luncheon, noon, at the base chapel.
■ Thrift Savings Plan briefing, 1-2:30 p.m., at the Family Support Center.

Wednesday

■ Story time for kids, 10 a.m., at the base library.
■ Single parents support group, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., at the Family Support Center.



Photoby Tech. Sgt. Gino Mattorano

What is this?

Staff Sgt. Michelle Dela Victoria-Wolffe, Bioenvironmental Engineering Flight, tests a white powdery substance during last week's Condor Crest exercise.

Thursday

■ Career Fair preparatory class, 9-10 a.m., at the Family Support Center. Call 556-6141 to register.
■ Job orientation, 1-2:30 p.m., at the Family Support Center.

March 31

■ Easter Sunday Buffet, 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m., at the officers' club, by reservation only.
■ Easter Sunday Buffet, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., at the enlisted club.

Helpful Numbers

■ Family Advocacy Center 556-8943
■ Education Center 556-4064
■ Library 556-7462
■ Community Center 556-7671
■ Aquatics Center 556-4608
■ Fitness Center 556-4462
■ Officers' Club 556-4181
■ Enlisted Club 556-4194
■ Youth Center 556-7220
■ Family Support Center 556-6141
■ Chapel 556-4442

Community Notes**Community News**

BASE EXCHANGE/COMMISSARY ADVISORY COUNCIL - The BX and commissary at Peterson Air Force Base will have a advisory meeting 2-3 p.m., Thursday, in the commissary conference room in Building 1435.

All group commanders, squadron commanders, first sergeants, spouses, unit representatives and authorized BX and commissary patrons are welcome to attend.

For more information, call Judy Williams at 556-7765.

PIKES PEAK TOP 3 - The next Pikes Peak Top 3 meeting is scheduled for 3 p.m. Thursday at the enlisted club. The meeting is open to all E-7 and selects, E-8 and E-9s from all branches of service, active duty and retired.

SUMMER HIRE PROGRAM - The Student Summer Hire Program will be June 3 - Aug. 23.

For details on the program, call Nancy Nowacki at 556-6188.

CHILD CARE - Military spouses who are presently providing childcare or who want to care for children other than their own for a total of 10 hours or more per week must be licensed to do so in on-base quarters. The support group commander may revoke the housing privileges of anyone who refuses to become licensed.

To learn more about Family Child Care as a career, call the FCC office at 556-4322.

PIKES PEAK MILITARY FAMILY COOKBOOK - The Peterson Air Force Base Officers' Wives' Club is creating a cookbook to include all military families in the Pikes Peak region. To submit a recipe simply:

- All recipes must be neatly handwritten or typed.
- One recipe per page.
- Clearly state the title of your recipe.
- Include your name, military

affiliation and phone number.

■ List all ingredients, then the directions.

Submissions may be made by e-mailing Linh Narum at lnarum@msn.com or mailing Linh Narum, c/o Peterson Officers' Wives' Club, P.O. Box 14066, Peterson AFB, CO.

For more information, call Narum at 591-7010.

DOD MARROW DRIVE - The 721st Support Group is holding a DoD Marrow Donor Drive at Cheyenne Mountain 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday in the third floor breakroom near the dining facility.

For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Kristin Clark at 556-8474.

RED CROSS CLASSES - The American Red Cross will offer a number of classes throughout April.

The classes and fees are as follows:

- Adult CPR, 6-9:30 p.m., April 9. There is a \$35 fee.
- First-Aid, 6-9:30 p.m., April 11. There is a \$30 fee.
- Babysitter training for youth ages 11-15, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., April 13 and 20. There is a \$30 fee.
- AChild and infant CPR, 6-10 p.m., April 17. There is a \$35 fee.

For details, call 556-7590.

Education Center

SPORTS CORPORATION YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM - There are a limited number of scholarships available to Air Force Academy Falcon Sports Camps. These scholarships will be offered to kids ages 5-12 on a commuter only basis, and recipients must provide all necessary equipment for the camp. To receive an application, call the Colorado Springs Sports Corporation at 634-7333. Applications must be received by March 29.

FEDERAL EMPLOYEES EDUCATION AND ASSISTANCE FUND SCHOLAR-

SHIP - Federal employees and family members who are interested in the Federal Employees Education and Assistance Fund Scholarships may apply through March 29.

For an application, send a self-addressed, stamped, number 10 business envelope to FEEA Scholarships, Suite 200, 8441 W. Bowles Avenue, Littleton, CO, 80123-9501.

OPERATION BOOTSTRAP - The Air Force Bootstrap program has been replaced by the Air Force Education Leave of Absence Policy.

The main changes are in the amount of obligated service incurred, which is now two months for every one month of leave, and in pay, which is cut to basic pay only for the duration of leave.

Those already enrolled or approved will not be affected by the changes.

For details on the changes, call the education center at 556-4064.

CIVILIAN TUITION ASSISTANCE - Air Force Space Command Employees are eligible for civilian tuition assistance. The employee must sign a statement of understanding to apply.

Qualified applicants receive 75 percent of the tuition for courses taken through colleges and universities.

For more information or to apply for the assistance, call the education center at 556-4064.

Peterson Air Force Base Chapel Schedule

Protestant Services

Liturgical Worship
8:15 a.m.

Traditional Sunday
Worship 11 a.m.

Gospel Services
12:30 p.m.

Sunday School
9:45 a.m.

Catholic Services

Mass
Weekdays
11:35 a.m.

Saturdays 5 p.m.
Sundays 9:30 a.m.

Reconciliation
Saturdays 4 p.m.

Religious Education

Adult and pre K-
12th grade Sundays
8:30 a.m.

The mountain in our back yard

By Staff Sgt. Melanie Epperson
21st Space Wing Public Affairs

Cheyenne Mountain has played an important role in Colorado's history from a time as far back as remembered in American Indian legend, and with the construction of Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station deep within its core, the mountain began to play an important role in North America's future.

According to Ute Indian legend, the 100-million-year-old mountain is a sleeping dragon, with its nose at the South end near Fort Carson and its tail near the Broadmoor Hotel. The legend of the dragon is similar to the story of Noah and the flood.

Long ago, the Indians abandoned their religion and became sinful. The Great Spirit saw their sin and punished them by sending the rain. The tribes and livestock soon began to drown, and survivors were forced to retreat up Ute Pass and climb Pikes Peak to stay above the rising water. Eventually, the last two Indian families found themselves above the timberline where there was no food.

They took a boy papoose from one family and a girl papoose

from the other and placed them both in a canoe. The doomed families put all their food into the boat and set it adrift. The rain fell and the water rose until only the top of Pikes Peak stood above the waterline. When the rain finally stopped, the canoe came to rest on Pikes Peak. The children grew up and fell in love on the mountaintop.

One day they prayed to the Great Spirit that the water be taken away. In answer to their prayers, a great dragon flew from the east and landed east of Pikes Peak. Wanting to help, the dragon drank the water until it receded southward. The Indian brave and maiden were pure and good, and in time, they descended the mountain and repopulated the earth. The dragon drank so much water that it was unable to fly and fell asleep. It was eventually petrified, still asleep, and became Cheyenne Mountain.

Unlike the dragon in the legend, Cheyenne Mountain no longer sleeps.

The threat from Russia during the nuclear arms race and the Cold War forced air defense leaders to consider an underground Combat Operations Center. In 1956, preliminary complex planning and site surveys began. The Air Defense Command at Ent Air Force Base in Colorado Springs sent the first requirements for an

underground Combat Operations Center to the Air Force. The underground facility was to be designed to ensure a 70 percent probability of continuing operations after a five-megaton-weapon blast, be self-sufficient for emergency periods, have backup communications and television intercom with related commands, have emergency housing for personnel during battle conditions, and to protect against fallout and biological and chemical warfare. It was also required to operate during and after a sustained thermonuclear attack.

After a series of studies, proposals, concept analysis and site explorations, Congress released more than \$8.5 million for excavation work in Cheyenne Mountain. Construction began in June 1961, and excavation was completed a year later.

Following excavation, construction began on the complex of steel buildings, power plant, underground fuel and water storage, and supporting utility systems. Many innovative materials and techniques, along with 7,000 tons of steel, were used during construction. The interior buildings were mounted on 1,319 steel coil springs and were connected with flexible utility lines. Giant steel blast doors were constructed to protect against blasts. There were also special features to protect against electromagnetic pulse.

When construction was completed, complex computer systems were installed to collect and display data from early warning sensors. This early warning and analysis would allow real-time decision-making and attack response.

Five years and \$142 million dollars later, the North American Aerospace Defense began its operations inside the mountain.

Since its construction, the Combat Operations Center facilities and computer systems have been updated several times in response to changing threats and advanced technologies.

Today, the main entrance to the Combat Operations Center is approximately one-third of a mile from the north portal through a tunnel, which leads to a pair of steel blast doors set in reinforced concrete. Behind the three-foot-thick blast doors is a steel building complex built within a 4.5-acre grid of excavated chambers and tunnels.

The main excavation site is three chambers 45 feet wide, 588 feet long and more than 60 feet high, with four chambers 32 feet wide, 335 feet long and 56 feet high intersecting them. The chambers were mined, leaving rock pillars between them to provide more support. Fifteen buildings joined by flexible walkways make up the inner complex. Each one is freestanding, without contact

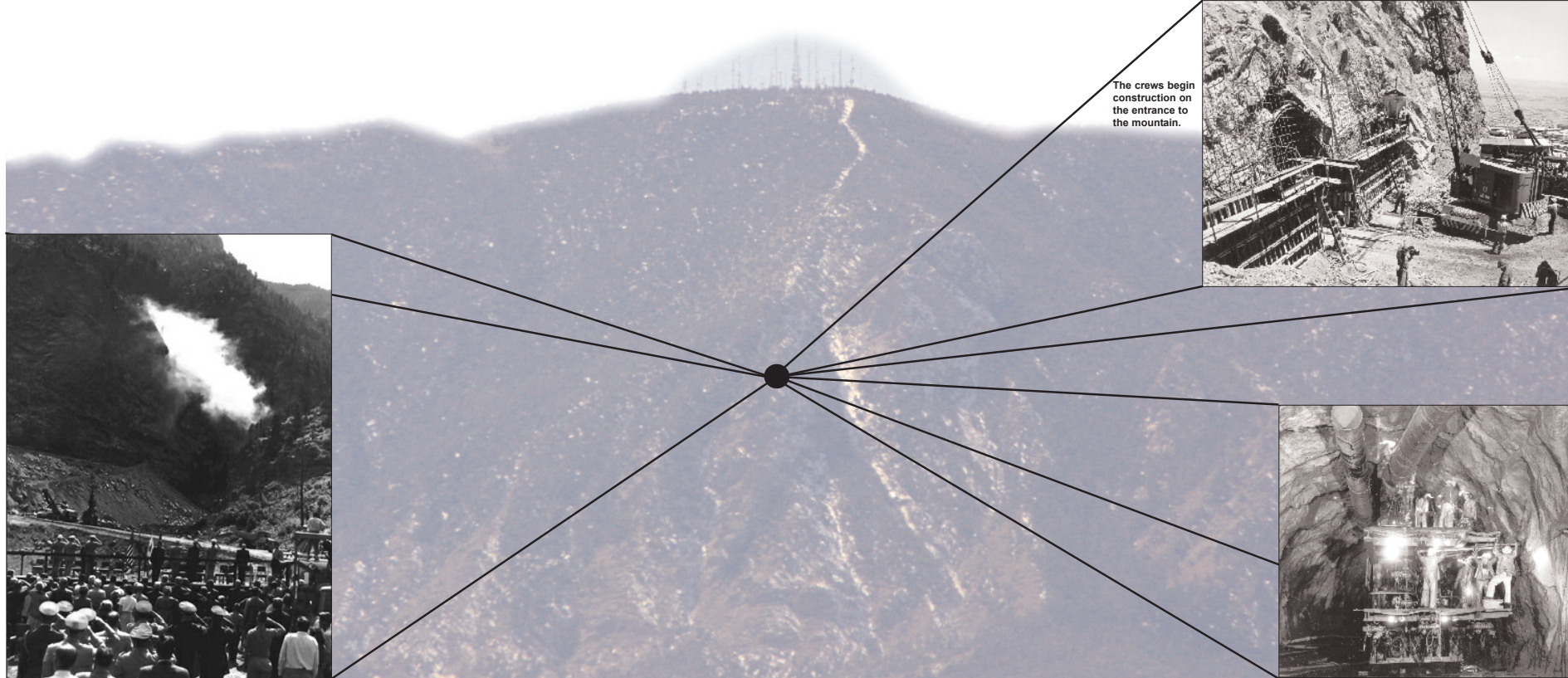
with the rock walls or roofs. Eleven of the buildings are three stories tall, and the rest are one and two stories.

The mission of the Combat Operations Center is to provide warning of attack in North America to the president of the United States and prime minister of Canada; the surveillance of space, to keep track of man-made objects orbiting the earth and provide a limited defense against bomber attack; and maintaining a peacetime surveillance system in North America, which is capable of detecting and identifying unknown aircraft.

The Cheyenne Mountain complex supports NORAD and the United States Space Commands. Also inside the mountain are the Missile Warning and Space Defense Operations Center, Space Surveillance Center, Air Defense Operations Center and a Civil Defense National Warning Center. The complex is jointly operated by the United States and Canada.

By tracking aircraft, missiles and satellites, the Cheyenne Mountain facility provides vital early warning. The dragon is still helping the North American people by watching the skies.

(Information and excerpts taken from *Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station fact sheet* and the *Legacy of Peace: Mountain With a Mission* history book.)



The crews begin construction on the entrance to the mountain.

This is a shot of the crews beginning the tunnels of Cheyenne Mountain.

The puff of smoke is the first excavating blast of Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station.

Positive, negative stress--how to deal with both

By Kim Diercks
21st Contracting Squadron

Stress is the wear and tear our bodies and minds experience as we adjust to a continuously changing environment.

It has physical and emotional effects on us and can create anything from a wildly positive to a dismally negative reaction. However, as a positive influence, stress can help compel us to action; it can result in a new awareness and an exciting new perspective on life.

As a negative influence, stress can result in feelings of distrust, rejection, anger, and depression, which in turn can lead to health problems such as headaches, upset stomach, rashes, insomnia, ulcers, high blood pressure, heart disease, and stroke.

In adjusting to different circumstances, stress will help or hinder a person depending on how they manage it.

Stress Facts:

■ Forty-three percent of all adults suffer adverse health effects due to stress.

■ Seventy-five to 90 percent of all visits to primary care physicians are for stress-related complaints or disorders.

■ Stress has been linked to all the leading causes of death, including heart disease, cancer, lung ailments, accidents, cirrhosis, and suicide.

■ As estimated one million workers are absent on an average workday because of stress-related complaints.

■ Stress is said to be responsible for more than half of the 550,000,000 workdays

lost annually.

■ Nearly half of all American workers suffer from symptoms of burnout, a disabling reaction to stress on the job.

The first step to managing stress is learning to recognize it. To the majority of people, stress is synonymous with worry.

Most people are good at identifying the more obvious mental indicators such as worry and irritability.

However, both the human body and mind associates stress with change, not necessarily worry, and it doesn't matter if the change is positive or negative – change has a significant impact on mental and physical stress levels; Therefore, a person may be experiencing stress and not even recognize it for what it is.

Positive stress can add anticipation and excitement to life. Further, people thrive under a certain amount of stress, depending on personal stress requirements and thresholds.

The goal is not to eliminate stress but to learn how to manage it and how to use it to your benefit.

On the other extreme, insufficient stress acts as a depressant and may leave a person feeling bored or dejected. However, excessive stress may leave them feeling tied up in knots. We need to find a stress balance. This is an optimal level of stress that will individually motivate but not overwhelm a person.

Unfortunately, there is no single level of stress that works for all people. As an individual, a person has a unique threshold and requirement for stress. What is distressing to one may be a joy to

another.

For instance, a person who loves to arbitrate disputes and travels from job site to job site would probably be stressed in a job that was stable and routine, whereas the person who thrives under stable conditions would very likely be stressed on a job where the duties were highly varied.

A great deal of illness is attributable to unrelieved stress – if you are experiencing stress symptoms, you have upset your stress balance. You need to reduce the stress in your life or improve your ability to manage it.

Some of the most common stress symptoms are:

- Increased heart rate
- Elevated blood pressure
- Headache
- Nausea
- Sleep disturbances
- Fatigue
- Susceptibility to minor illnesses

- Irritability
- Hostility
- Depression
- Withdrawal
- Diminished initiative
- Cry easily
- Hypercritical of self and others

■ Lack of interest

■ Impatience

Although identifying unrelieved stress and being aware of its effect on our lives is an important step in the management of stress, it is not sufficient for reducing the harmful effects of stress. Just as there are many sources of stress, there are many possibilities for its management.

Some of them are:

- Become aware of your stressors and your reactions.
- Pay attention to your distress.
- Determine what events distress you.
- Determine how your body responds to the stress.
- Recognize what you can change.

Exercise for cardiovascular fitness three to four times a week as well as eating a well-balanced, nutritious meal can help to reduce stress.

Simply put, stress is a symptom of living. It's unavoidable and inevitable. Instead of trying to hide from it, learn how to manage it and make it work for you, rather than against you.

For more information on stress and ways to reduce it, call Life Skills at 556-8943.

Stripes to bars--following a boss' advice

Master sergeant trades in stripes for bars after 15 years

By 2nd Lt. Darryl Braxton
21st Contracting Squadron

More prior-service enlisted individuals are making the career-changing choice to pursue their commission through Officer Training School than at any other time in the Air Force's history.

With nearly 15 years of military service, and at 33 years of age, I made the decision to remove my master sergeant stripes in favor of sec-

ond lieutenant bars.

For obvious reasons, many people are curious as to why a master sergeant would relinquish the respect, authority and prestige inherent with being a senior non-commissioned officer to start over as a second lieutenant.

Well, in the words of my former boss, Chief Master Sgt. retired Fred Beard, "Darryl, you have the unique opportunity to apply your vast experience and skills on a larger scope, thereby having a greater impact on the Air Force's mission and its people. You'll immediately gain respect, authority and prestige when the gold bars go on. Whatever you think will be lost, I'm confident you'll earn it again."

The insight provided by those statements put everything into perspective and firmly convinced me to press ahead with commissioning via OTS.

OTS proved to be an intense three-month program with an emphasis on leader-

ship, discipline, academics and physical conditioning. In many ways, my training and experience as a prior-service member were both a blessing and a detriment.

While my 15 years of military service meant I was intimately familiar with the concepts being imparted, my experience also served as a

magnet for a multitude of additional responsibilities along with constant pressure to lead my peers by example and practical application.

The challenge was finding an acceptable balance between managing my varied responsibilities, and not simply meeting, but exceeding OTS standards.

Without question, those gold bars aren't handed out on a first-come, first-served basis. You must earn them through hard work, discipline and sheer will power. For me, effective time management laid the foundation for the bridge that ultimately led to

my OTS success.

As a career Air Force professional, the experiences accumulated at OTS served to enhance my ability to perform as an Air Force officer.

The program instilled in me a renewed focus to successfully achieve the mission, strive to get the best for and from others, and to exemplify the highest level of integrity, loyalty and accountability in everything I do.

I am confident I will fulfill the expectations of the officer corps, while utilizing the invaluable skills gained as an enlisted member.



Sports Shorts

Intramural Volleyball - Monday and Wednesday competitive league games will be 11 a.m.-2 p.m.; and Tuesday and Thursday recreation league games will be 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Evening recreation and competitive leagues play Mondays and Wednesdays, 5-9 p.m.

Lady golfers - There is a lady golfers meeting 9 a.m., Thursday, at the Silver Spruce Golf Course.

Golfers of all skill levels are encouraged to come to the meeting.

For more information, call Shirley Jones at 599-7670.

Kickball tournament - A

Peterson Air Force Base kickball tournament will be 1-3 p.m., Monday and Tuesday, at the fitness center.

There is a \$2 fee.

For more information, call 556-1515.

Swim lessons - Spring

break swimming lessons will be 8-8:50 a.m.; 9-9:50 a.m. and 10-10:50 a.m., Monday-Thursday, at the aquatics center.

The lessons may be canceled, depending on the repairs to the pool being completed on time.

For information and to register, call 556-4608.

Golf lessons -

The Silver Spruce Golf Course is offering adult group golf lessons for beginners.

The lessons will take place on various dates throughout April.

For exact dates, times and prices, call the golf course at 556-7414.

Ring of

Fame nomina-

tions - Nominations for the Peterson Ring of Fame are being accepted at the fitness center.

The Ring of Fame honors Peterson Complex athletes. The deadline for submissions

is Aug. 1.

For details or to nominate someone, call Ernie Martin at 556-7092.

Youth karate - Youth

karate is every Tuesday and Thursday at the Fitness Center on Court 2.

Youth sports coaches -

The youth sports department

needs coaches for sports such as soccer and baseball.

For more information or to volunteer, call the youth center at 556-7220.

Personal trainers - The Fitness Center has personal trainers available.

For more information on the trainers and prices, call 556-4462.



Sports

CS pulls the net in on OSS in intramural volleyball

By Tech. Sgt. Gino Mattorano
21st Space Wing Public Affairs

A matchup between the 21st Communications Squadron and the 21st Operations Support Squadron punctuated the second week of intramural volleyball recreation league action Wednesday.

The 21st CS team galloped off to a 12-3 lead in the first game, backed by tough serving from Steve Weishaar, and Greg Bell.

The 21st OSS team added four more points midway through the game but couldn't pull it together to overtake the 21st CS team. Ryan Leffers added five more points for 21st CS to spur them on to a 25-7 win.

The 21st CS started off the second game at the same pace they ended the first, racking up 10 quick points behind the serve of Kent Campbell, who contributed nine points to the 21st CS effort in game two.

The 21st OSS mounted a comeback midway through the game with key serving by Jennifer Gahagau, but couldn't quite catch the CS team, who went on to win the game and seal the match by a score of 25-10.

Intramural volleyball recreation league games are Monday-Thursday between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. and competition league games are Mondays and Wednesday from 5-9 p.m.



Photos by Tech. Sgt. Gino Mattorano

Richard Wiltberger, 21st OSS, returns a serve during an intramural volleyball game Wednesday.



Ernest Relph, right, attempts a block as Ryan Leffers, 21st CS, "brings the heat" on the 21st OSS team. The 21st CS went on to win the match in two straight games.

